

MEMORANDUM

VIENNA

NO. SLZ/1741

SECRET
REGISTRATION

TO :
FROM :
SUBJECT : Heberstreit
REF : FRB/989

DATE: 12 July 1949

MICROFILMED
MAY 18 1965
DOC. MICRO. SER.

1. Following is translation of Subject's letter which was picked up by your office on 5 July:

"Dear Sir:

Here is the report on the border situation:

I shall be able to provide frontaliar passes into Hungary in case you need them. The individual requiring a frontaliar pass must have a police registration card proving that he is a resident of the place from which the pass is to be issued. This can be accomplished if the individual registers at one of the hotels as a tourist. For registering with the police, only an identity card is necessary, according to my knowledge. In the case of Austrian citizens, the police may request other identity documents, such as former police registration cards, proof of citizenship, or a passport. If the person is unable to show all these documents, this fact is noted on his local police registration card. Thus, in case of transients, the police do not insist that all documents be presented but are usually satisfied with the identity card.

Although small frontaliar traffic exists which is regulated by a bilateral agreement, nevertheless, a person in possession of a legal frontaliar pass is not sure he will be permitted to cross into Hungary. I know cases where Hungarian officials denied arbitrarily this right, and will give more information about this at a later date. In crossing, it is necessary to know the following: the frontaliar permits have a validity of three days and authorize the holder to circulate within an area of fifteen kilometers from the border. Letters and notes are taken away from border crossers, and returned to them upon return. (Heberstreit comment: I will have to check this statement.) There are other details which one has to know which I shall impart to you from time to time in person because I believe that we will have to meet each other anyhow.

As to the second solution (comment: clandestine border crossings with bases established on both sides of the border.), I see serious difficulties concerning the feasibility of your ideas. On this side of the border I could find appropriate places for the task but this is almost impossible on the other side of the border. The fear is so great on the other side that it is hardly possible

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to find anyone who would be willing to undertake this. Even if it were possible to find someone, it is unlikely that it would be conveniently placed () comment: Subject means safe houses on both side of the border and their relative location to each other), because obviously one would have to prefer the least fortified spots.

Also one permanent route has its dangers. It is impossible to keep under constant surveillance any particular spot and persons () comment: Subject means border guards). Unexpected changes are possible which one does not learn of at once. I hear that on the other side of the border the control of the border zones is very strict, and it is advisable to return from there as soon as possible. It is not wise to stay there.

I could provide one "certificate on the discharge of public work" () comment: a basic Hungarian document) if you need one.

In case you wish to meet me, I can come to Salzburg now during the school vacation, if you so desire. With respect,

P.S. Be kind enough to return to me the letter which I first handed to your man. Naturally, I will carry on and study the problem you mentioned. In case I see new possibilities, I will communicate with you."

2. Please advise whether you wish Subject handled by someone in Vienna, or whether he should be contacted by me, and where?

3. Attached please find a brief note to Subject from Villax, whom I met in France. The note instructs Subject to cooperate with us. Following is its translation:

"Dear Erno:

I have your letter but had no occasion to write before. I am glad you showed caution and ask you to help them as much as you can, which I will appreciate greatly (your letters reached the right hands).

With cordial regards, Ivan.

The order and sequence of things have changed; this, however, should not disturb you."

SECRET C A R D E D